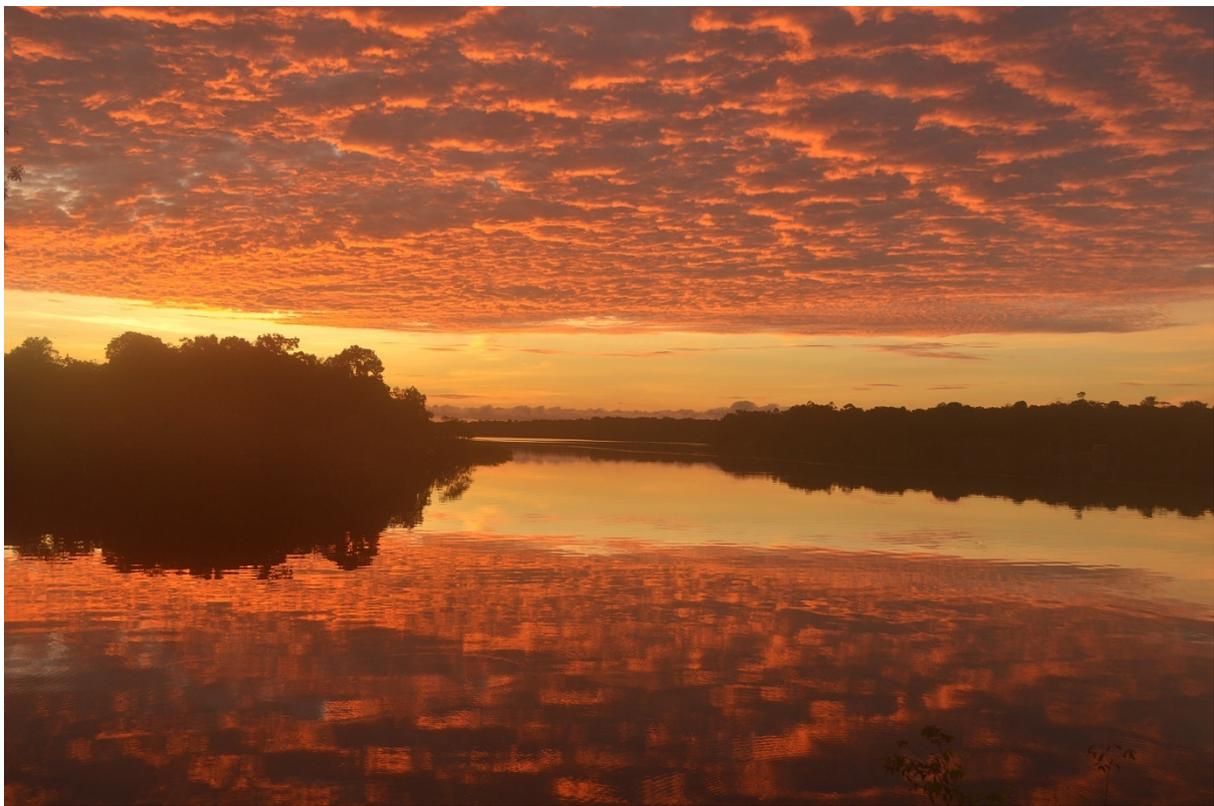


# *Hunting Activity in the Rio Negro Sustainable Development Reserve, Amazonas, Brazil*

Project Report: September 2019

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A beautiful dawn in the Tumbira community of Rio Negro Sustainable Development Reserve.

During the last 6 months, we have started our fieldwork in Rio Negro Sustainable Development Reserve. We have held community meetings, interviews with residents, and have set up camera traps for the first sampling of land mammals.

## 1. Meetings and interviews

Initially, we contacted the community leaders of the reserve to plan community meetings. This is an important step because we need to make the residents aware of the project, the importance of their participation in data collection, and their role towards the conservation of biodiversity (Figure 1).

While holding meetings in Rio Negro RDS communities, we realised that initially some residents were afraid to talk about hunting. But during meetings, these residents were able to raise their concerns; we tried to make them comfortable and answer all possible questions so that the project can be developed in these communities.



**Figure 1.** Meetings held in the communities of Rio Negro RDS: a) Saracá, b) São Francisco of Bujaru, c) Nossa Senhora de Fátima, d) 15 de setembro.

Regarding hunting interviews, to date we have interviewed 72 hunters of Rio Negro RDS (Figure 2). We obtained socio-economic information such as income, occupation, number of family members, as well as information about how each interviewee usually hunts, for example, there are interviewees who hunt only once a

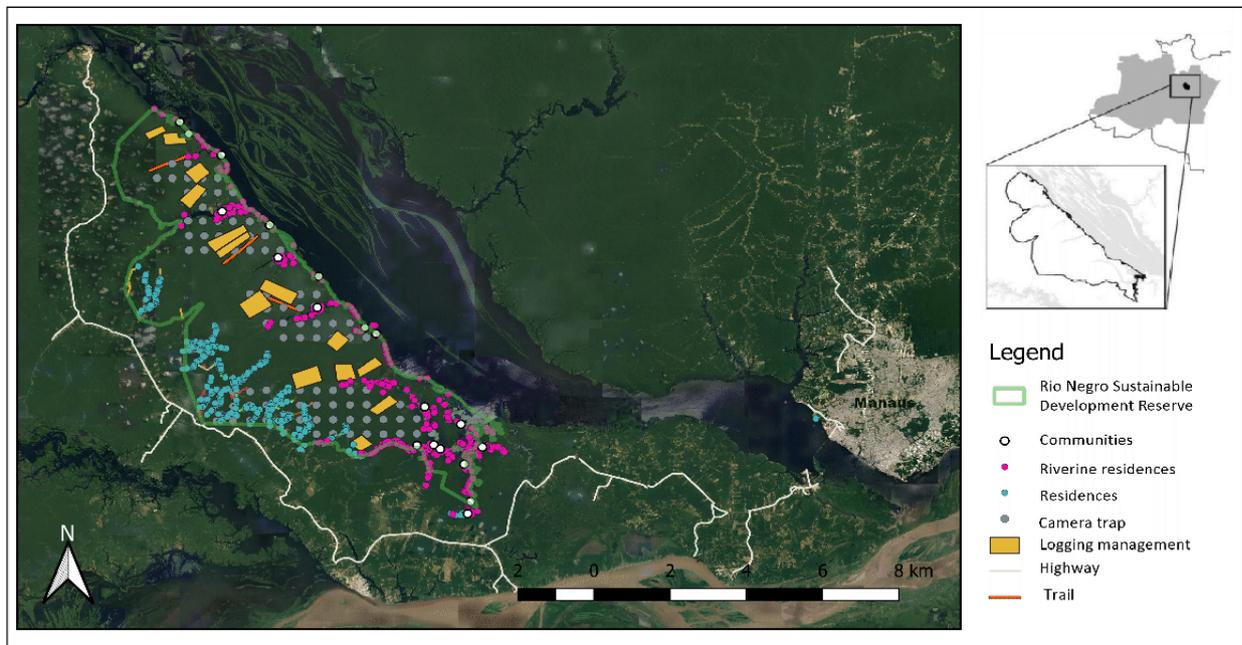
month and there are also interviewees who confirmed that they hunt daily. These interviewees agreed to participate in hunt monitoring during 2019 and 2020.



**Figure 2.** Interviews with hunters of Rio Negro RDS.

## 2. Installation of camera traps

From February to May, 2019, we installed a total of 71 camera traps along Rio Negro RDS, which remained active for 60 days (Figure 3).



**Figure 3.** Distribution of camera traps in Rio Negro RDS.

We have received help from the local residents to install these 70 camera traps. We emphasise that during the process, all participants duly received training on equipment operation and installation (Figure 4).



**Figure 4.** Installation of camera traps with residents of Rio Negro RDS.

During the fieldwork, we also came across signs of predatory human intervention, such as the clearing of forest areas for illegal logging. (Figure 5).



**Figure 5.** Camping and illegal logging in Rio Negro RDS.

Despite the risks and difficulties, we hope that this is just the beginning of land mammals monitoring and that more local residents can participate in our research.